

April 15, 1975

in the state of Nebraska and let's take tax monies to allow them to stay out on strike longer so that they can get these higher wages which will increase the state income product. A desirable goal but you simply can't take tax money and give it to any private individual to promote his personal interest and this bill says that you can take these funds and contract with persons, associations, and corporations. So they could go out to Joe's drug store and say, Joe, you have been a longstanding good businessman in this community. We would like you to be able to enhance your business for flow through traffic. We have got this tax and here, why don't you redo the front of your store. Say, tourists welcome and we will pay for it. You could do that with this bill. You could give \$20,000 to the Hilton Hotel in Omaha and say, why don't you go across the country and see if you can promote conventions to come and stay at the Hilton Hotel. You could do that with this bill, and there is nothing in here that says it wouldn't be done that way and that is simply not the way to spend tax dollars. You can't tax people, take public monies and apply it for private purposes. It simply isn't fair and equitable or a proper role of government. That's...if we want to promote tourism, let's fund the Department of Tourism or Economic Development and let them do it and hire respectable capable people to promote tourism in this state and pay the bill out of General tax revenues and pay it to state employees. That's the way to go about it, the proper way, and that's why this bill should be indefinitely postponed.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I rise to oppose the kill motion. Just because this bill has some technical problems doesn't mean that we, in our wisdom, can't solve the problems and get back to what Senator Cavanaugh is talking about. I see some of the problems that he is talking about in here, in this bill, but why should we act in haste and kill it now when we know there is considerable merit to all of us, to every citizen in this state, therefore, I would hope that you would not in haste again dispose of this bill until we have ample time to consider other ways and means in which this bill can live and be a viable factor in the state of Nebraska. I was going to adjourn, Mr. Speaker, but I didn't want to usurp your power.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Skarda.

SENATOR SKARDA: Mr. President, I ask for the question.

SPEAKER: Do I see five hands? Seeing so, (Mike off) for debate to cease. Have you all voted? The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 3 nays.

SPEAKER: Debate has ceased. Now then, ready for the question. Is that right? Oh, Senator Chambers, do you care to close? The question is, shall LB 339 be indefinitely postponed? This is to indefinitely postpone LB 339. Have you all voted? A Call of the House has been called for. A Call of the House has been called for. Do you withdraw? The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.